



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Ustilagineæ have been included under the Basidiomycetes. In the algæ, bryophytes, and pteridophytes the classification remains unchanged, so far as orders and arrangement are concerned. The name *Astigmatées* appears as a synonym for gymnosperms, and *Stigmatées* for angiosperms. Sweeping changes have been made in the classification of angiosperms. The monocotyls have been divided into four orders, Cyperinées, Joncinées, Liliinées, and Iridinées; but the Graminées, which previously headed the list of monocotyls, are put with the Nymphéinées in a class intermediate between monocotyls and dicotyls, and of equal rank. The Graminées seem to have been taken from the monocotyls on the ground that they have two cotyledons.

The previous classification of dicotyls was into Apetalæ, Dialypetalæ, and Gamopetalæ, each being subdivided into hypogynous and epigynous forms. The present classification is radically different, and here, too, many will hardly admit that there has been an improvement. The dicotyls are divided into two subclasses, the *Inseminées* and *Seminées*. The Inseminées include five orders: Inovulées or Loranthinées, Innucellées or Santalinées, Integminées or Anthobolinées, Unitegminées or Icacinées, and Bitegminées or Heistérinées. The second subclass contains two orders: Unitegminées, a series beginning with the Salicinées and ending with the Compositales; and Bitegminées, a series beginning with the Piperinées and ending with the Cucurbitinées. The book closes with a chapter on plant distribution.—CHAS. J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Medical botany.

STUDENTS of medicine and especially of pharmacy are required to have knowledge of a very large number of plants, widely distributed both in a taxonomic and in a geographic sense. In no other field of botany, perhaps, is the existing condition of things less satisfactory as regards really good textbooks than in pharmacy. The reason for this state of affairs seems to lie in the nature of the subject. To a degree probably nowhere else observed, the subject-matter to be presented consists of unrelated facts, and the student, without aid from any guiding thread of reasonableness, is expected to make himself master of these facts. As a result the work easily becomes tedious and mechanical. In order that as many details as possible may be retained in memory, a frequent repetition of the most important things becomes well-nigh a necessity. For these reasons a book which presents these facts in a brief, pithy style must find large appreciation and use. M. L. Trabut has made an attempt to condense into a small volume⁴ not only the necessary

⁴ TRABUT, L.—Précis de botanique médicale. Deuxième édition. 12mo. pp. 739. figs. 954. Paris: Masson & Cie. 1898.

information concerning plants furnishing drugs, but has extended the scope of the work to plants useful in furnishing food; to those having poisonous properties; and to those causing diseases. In order to make a place for one hundred and twenty-five pages dealing with the bacteriology of pathogenic forms, condensation has been carried to a great length. The interpretation by which the author has been led to this method of balancing his subjects seems rather extreme. An abundance of text-cuts, good in the main, adds value to the substance presented.—RODNEY H. TRUE.

MINOR NOTICES.

PROFESSOR A. S. HITCHCOCK has a paper in the *Monde des Plantes* on the Onagraceæ of Kansas. The geographical distribution is illustrated by states in the United States and by counties in Kansas, by the use of diagrammatic maps. His *Flora of Kansas* is in course of publication in the *Industrialist*. It consists entirely of these diagrams, sixty-five to a page. It is remarkable how thoroughly these present the facts of distribution. Kansas, on account of the great regularity of its outline and the equality of its almost rectangular counties is unusually well adapted to the use of such maps.—C. R. B.

A LIST OF MOSSES of New Brunswick, compiled by John Moser and edited by G. U. Hay, is reprinted from *Bulletin 16*, 1898, of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick, pp. 23–31. The editor has allowed an unfortunate designation of *n. sp.* to stand after those species recently described by Kindberg, which may mislead some. It is customary to use such a sign only in the original place of publication.—C. R. B.

CHICORY GROWING, as an addition to the resources of the American farmer, is advocated, guardedly, by Maurice Kains in bulletin 19 of the Division of Botany, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Last year more than 17,000,000 pounds of this root were imported.—C. R. B.

DR. J. C. ARTHUR read a paper before the last meeting of the American Carnation Society, showing the important relations of moisture to the plant and advocating the sole use of the subirrigation method of watering carnations indoors.—C. R. B.

IN A RECENT bulletin⁵ of the North Carolina Geological Survey Mr. Pinchot gives brief descriptions of the trees of North Carolina, with particular attention to the local distribution of the economic species. Excellent maps, showing botanical and commercial distribution within the state and good illustrations enhance the value of the descriptions.

⁵PINCHOT, GIFFORD, and ASHE, W.W.—The timber trees and forests of North Carolina. Bulletin no. 6, North Carolina Geological Survey, Raleigh.